

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE
FACULTY SENATE**

**Senate Resolution 11/12-05: Faculty Professional Meeting
Attendance Support Bill (Development I Bill)**

Bill History: 9/22/11 Reviewed by FSEC, sent to Fac&Stu Dev Comm.
10/20/11 Revised version (revisions underlined) at FS EC, Passed at First Reading
10/27/11 Faculty Senate approved on Second Reading after amendments made
12/1/11 Passed Senate on Third Reading, Becomes Res. 11/12-05

WHEREAS: Maintaining high quality in scholarship and faculty presence at national and international meetings is in the strong interests of the University, and

WHEREAS: The faculty of the University of Alabama in Huntsville often lack internal financial support to attend professional meetings, and

WHEREAS: The University benefits from faculty presence at meetings from Day 1 to the final day of a faculty member's service, and

WHEREAS: Some other Universities already have competitively awarded central funds for meeting attendance that supplement unit funds for that purpose,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Faculty Senate recommends the establishment of a new central fund, the Faculty Professional Meeting Attendance Central Fund (henceforth, Meeting Central Fund) dedicated to supporting legitimate fees associated with attending the conference for faculty professional meeting/conference attendance.

The Meeting Central Fund would be seeded with money each new academic year from the Provost and/or Vice President for Research. The Senate recommends starting with \$7500 per year in new funds for the Fund (I.e., not using funds diverted from any existing funds used for meeting attendance).

Awards would be up to \$600 each and limited to paying legitimate costs associated with attending the meeting for a full-time UAH faculty member.

Meeting Central Fund award decisions would be made by an ad hoc committee consisting of the Provost (or designee), Vice President for Research (or designee), Chair of the Senate Faculty and Student Development Committee (or designee), Chair of the Senate Finance and Resource Committee (or designee), and the Faculty Senate President (or designee). If the Senate establishes a Research Committee in the future, the Research Committee would serve as the ad hoc award committee in lieu of the above. The ad hoc committee would consider applications twice a semester. Only full-time faculty would be eligible to apply, with funds limited to the applying toward legitimate fees associated with attending the conference for the meeting indicated in the faculty member's application. The ad hoc committee would develop additional award criteria consistent with this resolution and publish and circulate them widely to the university community. These award criteria must, in particular, be blind to faculty seniority as the Senate's aim is to enable attendance without regard to shortness (or length) of service.

Award decision information would be reported in writing annually to the Senate, with the report to include counts of submissions and awards and a listing of pertinent details of each award.

Faculty with research funding able to cover conference attendance costs during the academic year would not be eligible to apply during that year.

Faculty from departments or colleges that already have an allocation from the Provost for conference attendance would be eligible for consideration only after the unit's allocation had been expended for the year.

Any given faculty member could receive no more than one support per year from the Meeting Central Fund.

